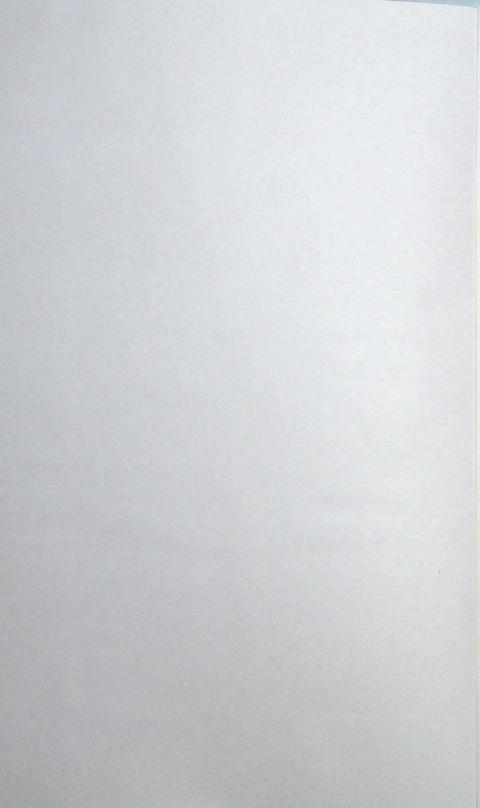


ABOUT THE BOOK:

This is translation of selected Kashmiri poems into English language. The book includes poems of Swache Kral, Parmanand, Krishna Joo Razdan, Master Zinda Kaul, Ghulam Ahmad Mahjoor, Dina Nath Nadim, Rahman Rahi, Moti Lal Naz and Bal Krishen Sanyasi. These poets are some of the prominent signatures on the creative poetry of Kashmiri Language. The book has six parts, first part comprises of the poems of more than one poet and each of the next four parts is designated to a poet. The sixth part is translation of some folklores. The book contains 62 famous poems and 13 popular folklores. The limitations and challenges of translations in this book are met, not to lose the virtues of the original.

Compliments from
Vivender Varne



WORDS AND VIBES

Selected Kashmiri Poems Translated By Arvind Shah

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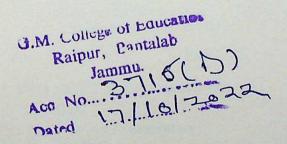
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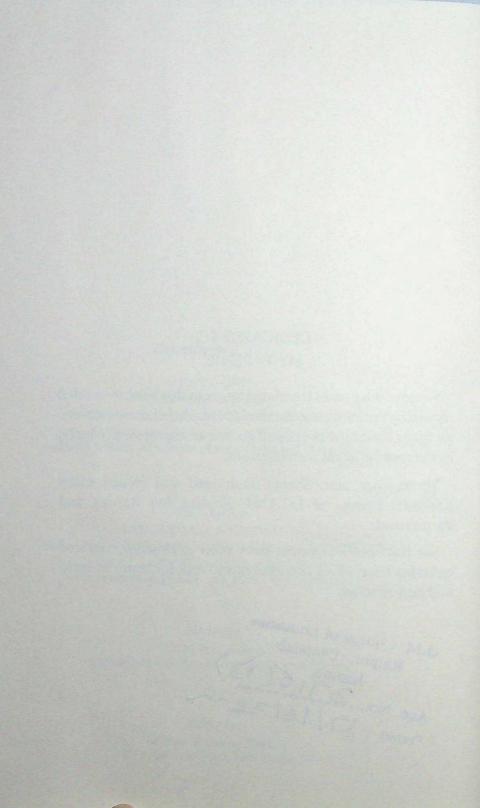
DEDICATED TO MY PARENTS

Some of the poems translated by me in this book were often recited by my father late Shri Janki Nath Shah, he remembered lot many Kashmiri poem and quoted an appropriate couplet in the routine of his conversations.

My mother Smt. Shanta Shah read and recited many Kashmiri hymns of Lal Ded, Krishna Joo Razdan and Parmanand.

She has been a favourite story teller to children, narrated episodes from Hindu scriptures and folk literature in lucid and easy manner.





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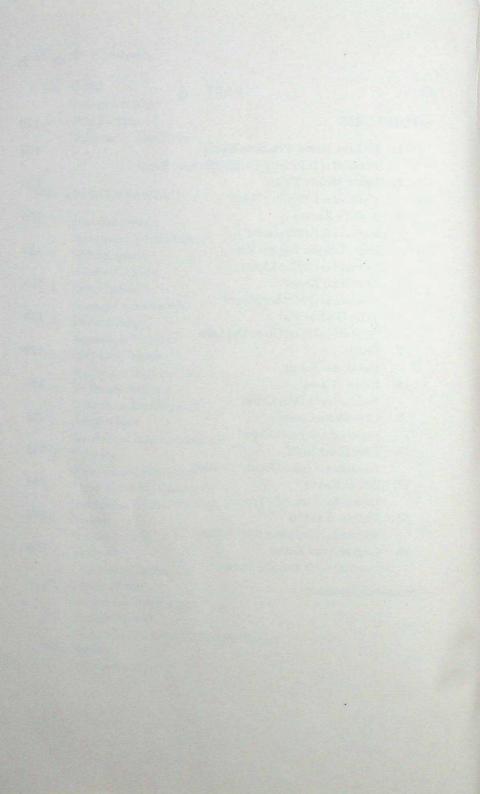
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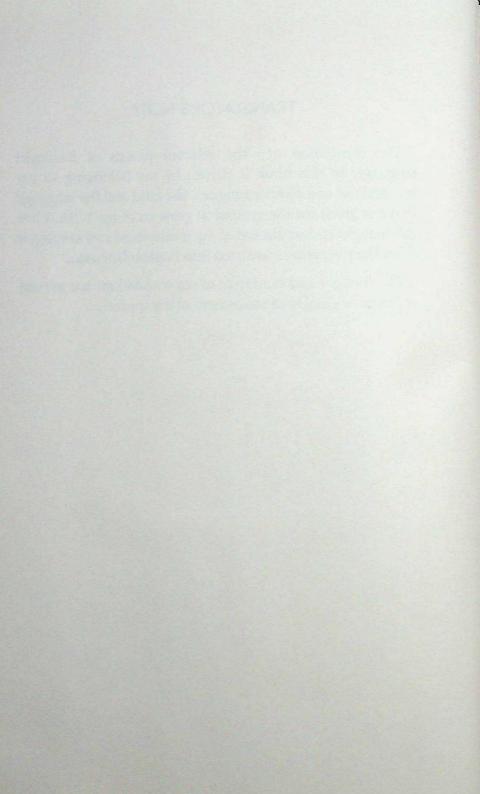
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TRANSLATORS NOTE

The translation of the selected poems of Kashmiri language, in this book is driven by my belonging to my motherland and mother tongue: the land and the language that has given me the ground to grow since my birth. I live the thought and sentiment of my motherland and keeping it alive, the poems are translated into English language.

The thought and sentiment of my translations are in tune with the original is an assessment of the reader?



PREFACE

This book of translation of select kashmiri poems is product of my urge for kashmir: kashmiri culture, language and literature, which I want to live, and share to reach out to more.

Home Urge

I sing praise in live tone
for air, water, soil and every stone –
sing for each tree in the woods
for "Foods will last when woods will last"
sing a song for every lady of the land
for "Womanhood holds the virtue of garland.2"
But averse to find rhyme with turbulent time
"I die many a time to live life of mine3"
believe: "Shrill will melt for blooming spring4"
high spirits, lively – lovely tones again to bring
am certain to find the lost home:
my love cannot end and I hope live life of peace and virtue
as Lal5 recites, to give a Clue.

Kashmiri poetry has had a role in developing my emotions for enrichment of life.

This book is an attempt to bring to readers, the sensitivities and sentiments of kashmiri poetry in English language as perceived and presented by the poets.

A poem is a sprouting bud of emotions on the twig of

¹ sheikh noor-ud-din noorani

² rasul mir

³ rahman rahi

⁴ mahjoor

⁵ the greatest poetess of kashmir

rationale, and Kashmiri poetry in the same paradigm is spontaneity of the fragrance, to fill the breeze with the scent for spiritual urge, romantic feelings and revolutionary ethos – it is expressions portraying, artistry of nature and passions of living.

I had the great support and the privilege to meet, talk and discuss the poems with Prof Rahman Rahi. The discussions improved my imbibing capacity to absorb the fineness of his poems and also in the assimilating the sensitivities of poetry, at large. Similar were my experiences with Mr. Balkrishen Sanyasi and Mr. Moti Lal Naz.

The poems of other poets incorporated in the book have been on my mind for a long time. I have listened to them in music and read them many a time. It is my love for the poems, my love of the language and my love for literature that I have been able to recreate them in English.

I wished to incorporate more poems of more poets in this book, but the desire could not be accomplished, and I keep my hope alive to do it.

Arvind Shah

TRANSLATION

ranslating poetry is not purely, a mere literary work. In fact, I believe writing translations of poetry is not an abstract literary work of compiling sentences and composing them in one pattern or the other. Poetry for me is simple expression of thought, sentiment and emotion, which finds its roots in imagination, experience and reason. Writing poetry is, therefore, an expression of spontaneity like sudden sprinkling of water from a fountainhead or an opening of a bud to sprout a flower with the first beam of sunlight. Translating a poem is similar to writing a poem. Reading same poem again and again opens more and more depths of the creativity and relays the feel that has gone in its creation. Reading poetry without the sensitivity to gather the feeling is unjust to the seriousness of reading through the spirit of the poem. Poetry reading, understanding and wearing it on the nerve is joy. It is with this sentiment that I read poems, assimilate them and reproduce them in other language that may be called translation of the poem. Translating a poem is a simple job, what makes it simple is the fact that one has to read the poem, understand the spontaneity in the poem, imagine the state of mind of the poet, note - the style, the manner and the mood in which the poem has come up. And then assimilate the attitude of the poet towards the subject, capture the fragrance and aura that is spread by the poem. A poet creates spirit and soul in the poem and the natural determination to create same fragrance, aura and spirit by recasting the poem in another language as the poet has created in the original is translation of a poem. It is more a relationship of sentiments than the relationship of words. It is a transcendental relationship. It is this, transcendental relationship between the poet, poem and the translator that helps in creating a close replica of the original poem in a different language. This is the translation of the poem.

Writing poetry does not necessarily mean a strict adherence to the rules of the language, it sometimes becomes a handicap, and going ahead of the rules – creating new fashions in writing is a character of poetry writing and poetry translation. I, as a translator / poet, feel free to experiment with words / language for writing poetry and also for writing the translations of the poems, and it is then for the sensitive reader to decide whether the sentiment is being carried in true colour or not. This is one of the characteristics of the poetry that poems are multidimensional in meaning. Multidimensional character of the poems make the poems fit in different scenes to hold relevance in different situations. While translating a poem, it is paramount that in the translation, the dimensions of the poem are not lost.

Punctuation is a very important character of poetry. The punctuation marks help in depicting the sound patterns and the need to pause while reading, to help the situation assimilation and also the feel of the poem. The translator must be very perceptive about the use of the punctuation in the original and the translation.

Translation of a poem is recreation of the original in another language. The literary substitutes – nouns, verbs, adjectives does not need to be put in place as an engineering drawing situation. Adopting such mechanical procedures harm the creativity of the translator and thus the translation as well. Abstract dictionary substitutes sometimes damage the translation. However visiting dictionaries and thesaurus for studying the character and connotations of a word is a help. Translation is an active creativity. There must be a close relationship of creativity between the original writer and the translator for a successful translation work. It is the

relationship of sentiment between the poet and the translator through the medium of poems that give the intuition to the translator to use similar language pattern and expressions as in the original.

Translation is not writing a purport or an interpretation or a comment based on the essence drawn by the translator. Translation is a phenomenon of recreating the poem in as close a manner as possible to the original. It is therefore obligatory for the translator to try to use similar class of words that may or may not be the dictionary substitutes, and then evolve an insight to adopt similar meter, similar rhyming pattern, similar sentence structure and above all the culture and the gravity of the poem as in the original.

Translation also has its dimensions, in certain cases, it may be required, for carrying on, the sentiment of the original that an additional couplet, phrase or idiom etc is added befitting the same style and the pattern as that of the original, similarly it may be required to synchronize an expression. These types of interventions in recreating the poem in a different language are skill, and need to be done with a very careful involvement with the subject both by sentiment and by sensitivity. The addition or synchronization must bear intimate relationship fitting the form and style of the original creation so as to carry the substance and sentiment closely and successfully, lest it should be a burden and baggage or a missing link with the original. I have done these experiments when there was a need.

It is the determination of the poet to bring forth his poem in rhyme or blank verse or any other form and style of poetry. There is a cause, process and a phenomenon that the poet knows the best to determine his style and form of poems. And I believe that the translator has no authority or the right to change the form and style of the poem from the original to

the style and form of his convenience in translation. I believe translators shall try to be determinedly conscious to maintain the style and form as close as possible to the style and form of the original. When the poem is flat it shall be translated flat, and when the poem is open ended and multidimensional, it shall be translated in same fashion.

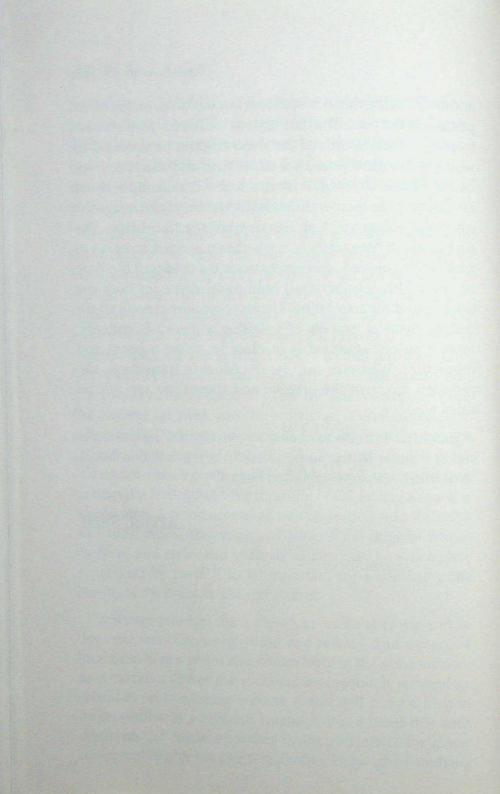
Translating a poem does in no way give the mandate to the translator to limit the expressions of the original to his understanding. A piece of creative art is not to find a standard meaning. A creative activity is successful when it possesses multidimensional relevance and stands the strides of time. This happens when the meanings are spread and broad based and invoke a desire to find and look into. In a piece of creativity meanings are to be discovered and it is in this effort of discovery that the relationship between the creative art work and the individual is established. This relationship between the poem and the individual may vary in intensity and spirit from individual to individual. A piece of creation here a poem as a single identity, keeps a soul and emanates a feeling, and the meaning of the feeling as such is wholesome, A translation shall be a recreation with the spirit and substance - fragrance and aura of the original within its form and style, and shall simultaneously be a complete expression by itself. This is important for assimilating the beauty of the poem in the translation.

Language emerges from the socio- cultural fabric and so does the emotion, imagination and reason. And a piece of literature, here a poem also comes forth in the same fashion, so it carries a hue of the socio-cultural mood. It is therefore character of translating a poem that it will carry a dent in its recreation in a different language. But, I belief that such dents can be made smoother in the recreation, for closer understanding of the poem in another language by studying

and assimilating the socio-cultural fashion of the origin of the poem and the poet. The translator as well as the reader needs to put in work to imbibe the socio-cultural background in which the original poem has taken birth and also the sociocultural fabric in which it is recreated. Translating without assimilating the socio-cultural fabrics is bound to damage the spirit and substance, and also demean the translation. The simple test of the creativity is whether it touches emotion to look for reason and whether it stands the strides of the time This scrutiny shall hold equal virtue for both the original and the translation. However for pure classifications and mechanical process of assessing a piece of creativity, more than one standard is in place to define a poem and translation. Whatever may be the effort in translation, the variation factor in the original and translation can not be ruled out.

This brief introductory chapter on translation has been earlier written by me and carried on my translation book, "Atal Bihari Vajpayee - Selected Poems"

Arvind Shah



SOME LEGENDS

"Oh! Myself who am I? It is – is but extension of His."

a verse from a poem of Soch Kral

"Conscious careful dedication arouses pure devotion gives the irrigation and heat to sprout yields in repeat hope blooms in full colour the lotus smile to flower."

a verse from a poem of Parmanand

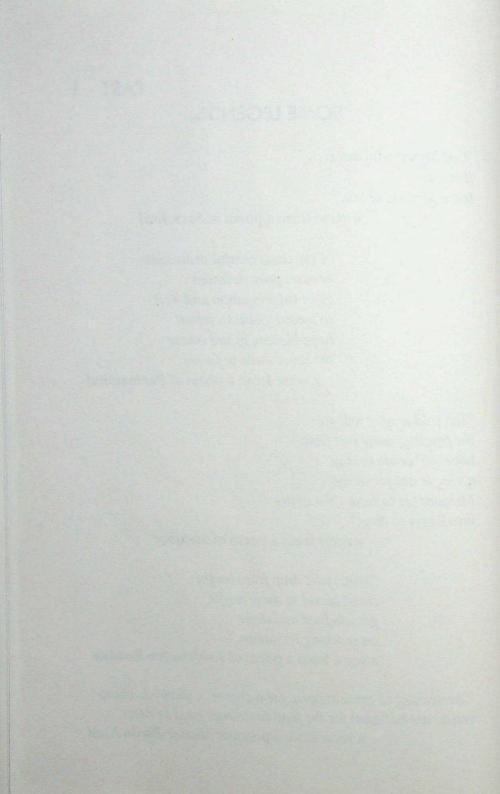
"The cold winter will go, the freezing snow will flow. hope will come to stay. spring is not far away. Mehjoor set to tune - the string love Songs to sing."

a verse from a poem of Mehjoor

"Waterfalls drop from height shout aloud to show might get subdued and done on reaching the ocean." a verse from a poem of Krishna Joo Razdan

"Showcasing to exhibit: open, for a charm of show - is cheap vessels are lid laden for the food to simmer good to deep."

a verse from a poem of Master Zinda Kaul



SOCH KRAL (1782 To 1854)

A Gazal Translated as He and me

Oh! Myself who am I? It is – is but extension of His.

When I was born to existence, then witnessed Moon and Sun came in as – as to go off for It is – is but extension of His.

Wove multicoloured yarn: oh! - ha! chanting the name Allah – Allah realizing the sense therein for It is – is but extension of His.

Nothingness, but still somethingness nothing keeps something to mean.

nothing reveals the meaningful thing for It is – is but extension of His.

I never believe He is not near He is with me in-house, here So who is foe and who is friend¹ for It is – is but extension of His.

Oh Swach Kral
nothing separate – all Allah: He
I keep on Him to See
for
myself is – is
but extension of His.



¹ In sofi-ism, conflict within the self is the foe and harmony with self is friendship, and when self realises unison with being then the demarcations between a friend and foe vanish.

PARMANAND (1791 To 1879)

Santosh Biyali Bhavi Anand Phal Translated as Contentment: The Seeds Of Bliss

The field of activity be strengthened by spirituality sow the seed of contentment for the yield of betterment.

Breath – in and out flow the pair of oxen on the plough keep them active to go all around by a watchful hoot and shout and be sure: no part is left still unattended to fall ill.

Arouse a love notion sentiments of devotion work to smoothen the earth level the soil for high worth lest the wicked moisture should remain beneath to spoil future.

Why work to make ridges for compartment's sake make systems smooth and clean for a through passage to be seen a uniform lookout to the field of life will then circulate the sap without strife.

Favourable time is a span short full of youthful energies a lot find time for the virtuous act put in true efforts direct sow the seed by good deed real joys will come indeed.

Keep a single track mind, don't rattle all the disturbing factors to settle maintain due level of the sap leave open no gap sensuous distractions shall stop keep them in control a lot.

Conscious, careful dedication arouses pure devotion gives the irrigation and heat to sprout yields in repeat hope blooms in full colour the lotus smile to flower.

The animal instincts be kept reined arrested and duly contained lest they should get loose and free eat the ground stocks for no glee keep the mind in watchful state the toil of love, not to go in waste.

The field when full of blooming yield: joys and pleasures come to supersede but renunciative tool be the instrument to harvest the crop, and systematically set make the bundles for betterment but tie with the knots of little attachment.

Carry the crop loads with determined holds near and dear, cousins and brothers relationships and all others be the associates to work and make a team in unison for goodness sake.

Renounce complicities and be one simplicity will lead to solace then work for proper possessions to make heaps of value to take shape Pleasures: true and no fake will emerge for the take.

Watchful mind on open field attentions fixed not on greed focused attention with determination on the crop of the ground gets virtuous value to be found.

Active mind and body smart vigilance to keep values intact segregate virtues and vices apart separate each as a different lot be alert and cautious in every pose without getting into doze.

Keep the personal store intact but, let each have its genuine part keep up routines with honesty: fair work through peace for the goal is near keep a portion for each to share without the fear of debts to rear.

Select a portion for seed, and store, keep it in care more spring - comes, and go for the go grain by grain each seed to sow have yields fresh and new for the circle to continue.

The world is, mirage and trick be a part of it but – systematic trim, to throw and shed: duplicity, for unison to tread so be a saint to be a saint maintain the order to be the great.

Virtue discipline is attained wholly by guru's initiation: really assimilate His word and act within make it a duty bound discipline - the commitment to dutifulness arouses the Light of Bliss: thus.

Self attains elevation awakens Bliss: the great possession free from prejudice and pride ill will and biased slide hold on to the peace of mind for Bliss to find.

Parmanand a farmer keeps no debits: whatever settled all dues: due and fair none in demand can come near Now Pure with no disturbance, having won all the distance finds the Real Home to be in no more roam¹.



¹ recycles of birth and death

KRISHNA JOO RAZDAN (1850 To 1926)

Byell Tai Maadal Translated as Byell Tai Maadal

Byell¹, Maadal¹, Vyanh¹ and Gulabh¹ in a bouquet I offer to Parma Shiva, and pray.

Oh Shiva! from your cascading hair flows the Ganga: fair Bhrama, Vishno and all Gods stand hand folded in prayer I bow in your reverence, and pray.

Byell¹, Maadal¹, Vyanh¹ and Gulabh¹ in a bouquet I offer to Parma Shiva and pray.

Oh benevolent! your love springs up in me, true romance Master! keep me composed not to lose the real substance for worldly inconsistencies keep many a trick to lay.

¹ names of flowers and scented herbs

11

Byell¹, Maadal¹, Vyanh¹ and Gulabh¹ in a bouquet I offer to Parma Shiva, and pray. My love and love to Shiva, Shambu or Shankera: whatever

the call

I keep alive a burning desire in me to have your glimpse: small

Pray own me, lest I should fall in helpless fray.

Byell, Maadal, Vyanh and Gulabh in a bouquet I offer to Parma Shiva, and pray.

Beseech: walk with your lotus feet into my being, silently I surrender and sacrifice every bit of my personality for your walking in, will get me into bliss, to stay.

Byell, Maadal, Vyanh and Gulabh in a bouquet I offer to Parma Shiva, and pray.

Oh! Amarnatha – Neelkantha,² I be done on Yee, for getting me (Krishan) – Your mercy to see in faithful adoration, I submit to Shiva today

Byell, Maadal, Vyanh and Gulabh in a bouquet I offer to Parma Shiva, and pray.



I be done on Yee": May I exhaust to death in prayers to find unison with You!

² shiva in different forms

Kripa Karum Hari Harai Translated as Oh Harihara - Be Kind

Oh benevolent - be kind my efforts keep little to find.

I am tired and old held under a heavy load be kind and help to cross enable me get across.

Oh benevolent - be kind my efforts keep little to find.

Waterfalls drop from height shout aloud to show might get subdued and done on reaching the ocean.

Oh benevolent - be kind my efforts keep little to find.

Talking and talking gets me into rage and I reach into a foolish stage give me the worth of silence, to possess and be worthy without recess. Oh benevolent - be kind my efforts keep little to find.

Decorated nicely is my plumage stock look like a charming peacock, but am humbled to see the ugly feet with me.

Oh benevolent - be kind my efforts keep little to find.

Lord give me your full grace
like the charming dawn on the earth's surface
lest the soul should get me into trouble
to make me into worthless rubble.

Oh benevolent - be kind my efforts keep little to find.

Your feelings give ecstasy at the core get elevation in the instincts four now - I beg, I beseech and I pray appear in me as a lucent ray.

Oh benevolent - be kind my efforts keep little to find.

Lord three universes, You master, found am I, of your immenseness - Oh Shankara,
I am raw un-spun yarn: thin get me the strength by a true spin.

Oh benevolent - be kind my efforts keep little to find.

Get me into enlightenment to realize eternal betterment and I be there, in true peace in blissful stage without cease.

Oh benevolent - be kind my efforts keep little to find.

Untie my (Krishna's) hold with spontaneity: more, to find open, the salvation door and there be I, with certainty in bliss till eternity.

Oh benevolent - be kind my efforts keep little to find ations and being

Abhinavguptus Zaarepar Translated as A Prayer to Abhinavgupta

Oh benevolent Lord appear get us your bliss to cheer as Abhinavgupta, the saint scholar, once did to his devotees by his benevolence!

Twelve hundred devotees along with: the tall born saint, epitome of disciplines all went direct to Shiva's abode eternal peace to attain and adore.

Who else has gone to eternity with physical personification? as Abhinavgupta, the saint scholar, once did to his devotees by his benevolence.

Death could not end your devotees' fate I salute and submit to you, the Shiva incarnate you are the true careful caretaker defeat and death, cannot take over. Pray! help me to attain salvation as Abhinavgupta, the saint scholar, once did to his devotees by his benevolence.

Show us the face of your radiance to wash off our sins, thence in the pious river, Sind¹, give us, dips a few to find, our mind, in unison with Shiv.

Get us all our misdemeanours end by your gratification? as Abhinavgupta, the saint scholar, once did to his devotees by his benevolence.

The sacred tracks of Ram Rath², to be tread by adults and children, true secrets to be read and there at the mountain top to get the true secrets lot.

Get the eternal love revelations in simple definitions as Abhinavgupta, the saint scholar, once did to his devotees by his benevolence.

Will pray to Him our craving to sound He is present everywhere: around the inner system of conscience then to get active to realise Supreme unison.

¹a pious river in kashmir , taking a bath in the river washes sins ²a pilgrimage in Kashmir

This gets us to see ultimate realization! as Abhinavgupta, the saint scholar, once did to his devotees by his benevolence.

The Supreme feelings get forth welling up of the pious water from the core all discrimination – high or low nude or wrapped will go.

This unison washes all sins for Real love affiliation! as Abhinavgupta, the saint scholar, once Did to his devotees by his benevolence.

Oh Lord, you are white like camphor all in all You are the beholder of, Holy Ganga waterfall we pray, give us the shower of the holy water to have, and keep the bliss forever.

Devotees to get the holy energy for possession! as Abhinavgupta, the saint scholar, once Did to his devotees by his benevolence.

Oh Lord, the Bhairava (Shiva) we follow you tread your way, run impatiently after you get us to the Beru Cave: the eternal gateway to reach eternity all the way.

I Crave, fulfil my urge to have an immortal nectar immersion! as Abhinavgupta, the saint scholar, once did to his devotees by his benevolence.

My miseries have vanished my despair finished I have found the way: the Real one to meet: the place of Shiva's abode and seat.

In the eternal cave, the Lord will welcome for we have become one! as Abhinavgupta, the saint scholar, once did to his devotees by his benevolence.



MASTER ZINDA KAUL (1884 To 1965)

Simran
Translated as
Prayers

Meditative contemplation gave me a token of bliss oh! lost the possession for lack of resolution, to let it miss.

I have not offered precious pearl oblations in my time: old how can I, now have a reach to them, blind fold.

Should have treasured it in the warmth of heart, but kept on show whom shall I blame now, I, by my deed have pushed myself to the edge of a bay.

Showcasing to exhibit: open, for a charm of show - is cheap vessels are lid laden for the food to simmer good to deep.

Since I laid to rest the token, I, in vacuum am lost, thence - loitering here and there – stall to stall in a gloom of absence.

Now, how do I explain my fearfulness - no easy a task to do shy, I am to say in daylight, and darkness perplexes me too.

Keep faith and trust, someone will give another for possession sake
His bliss is never short, He keeps plenty and plenty to give for a take.

Be certain: He is kind to the faith filled heart to give elation of a Bliss Ray go and seek this salient truth from Sudhama¹ calmly, and he will say.



¹ the friend of lord Krishna, who despite intense poverty kept faith in the love of his friend, his faith changed his fate

MEHJOOR (1885 To 1952)

Yamberzal
Translated as
Yamberzal

O! Yamberzal, I got into perplex puzzled to speak and express - to dawn breeze what shall I tell, what shall I tell to early dew and spring spell?

Spring sent a word for a call and I dashed traversing distances all spring keeps date for a short spell summer and shower what shall I tell?

The fresh charms come, keen to know when blossom charmer will show - Bunafcha¹, Brangil¹, Takebaten¹ and shrubs all what shall I tell to their call?

The bird with the anxious heart seeks from me, the message I got - any reason I could excuse to him but what shall I tell to my throb within?

The wind before the dawn went pass steal send enthusiast's dreams to toss - such a love robber with zeal deep what shall I tell him, stealing my sleep?

names of flowers

The hope singer: Bumbur¹, kept me live but, ah! who is my enemy to get me to wail I long for him - what engages him to be late what shall I tell to his selfhood and my ill fate?

To freshen up the flowers: the dew comes early rejuvenates and leaves the garden quickly such a spirited show of care and nurture what shall I tell to the loss of its departure?

I am nonplussed in depression sidelined in seclusion eyewitness to the whole show but, what shall I tell when I go?

Mehjoor accompanied me, garden to roam but do we keep up for the same home -I look within and long to meet and merge what shall I tell to his union urge?



Ati Roz Madanvaro Translated as Be There Oh Dear

Be there oh dear your steps I adore hold - just hold oh dear to hear - me implore!

Oh! sterile respondent unkind tyrant kindly turn around to heed don't inflict hurts: deep.

Oh! I just saw my beloved told her my miseries aloud and all my annoyances vanished got high and elated.

Mehjoor stop, Oh! Dear stop who is to read this love affair hold the warmth in your soul for love is put to cost and toll.

Be there oh dear your steps I adore hold - just hold oh dear to hear me implore!



Selection on the second The Park Park

DINA NATH NADIM (1916 - 1988)

He is considered as a poet of revolution and has been a poet of many experiments in Kashmiri poetry. His poetry invokes a sense of national belonging and brotherhood through expressions of hope. Some critics define him to have introduced modern poetry in Kashmiri language. He has also written poems of satire.

"Sell – sell existence to hard money earn wealth and riches many refuse to listen to sense other refuse to heed to word other mind your sense to sell and have...... Be out to sell, what you have keep your tongue on mortgage sell your conscience and courageit is silly to seek competitive price every price you get, is nice."

a verse from the poem "Kakaz Walisunz Hak" Dina Nath Nadim

Erade

Translated as

Determination

Red hot – red hot quite a lot – quite a lot my blood – youthful youthful, youthful a storm, wrathful wrathful wrathful

I don't fear, I desire to die for kashimir in cheer whirlwind I am none to deter me and ram should we be in scare shell in and live in fear have to face and see fight and defeat the enemy. Red hot – red hot quite a lot – quite a lot my blood – youthful youthful, youthful a storm, wrathful wrathful wrathful.

Lightenings gave me a clue to burn, burst, and fight for due the turmoil on mind and ground reveal to me the secrets: aloud the martyrs, just dead fill my blood with colour red.

Red hot – red hot so Quite a lot – quite a lot my blood – youthful youthful, youthful a storm, wrathful wrathful wrathful.



Haersaath Translated as Reflection

A broken piece of mirror: haphazard shines bright on heap of garbage.

a cow walked by, came in – gazed and went past a dog came in – breathed on it, and went past an indiscreet fool like soul draped in rag strips - whole and whole took it up and fused on her strip - then extended the reach of her possession.

What more can be said a thought that is to be read.



Haersaath Translated as Ponder

A cloud climbed a mountain top a lightning split it - the wrap to stop. it was then held in a trap of mountain detained no drops to drop as rain. but ear piercing sounds to descend to ground like shrilled yelp of a child around.

We took it just a thunder, however soon found a white blanket cover. a friend had brought a friend, to host at home who can ask, how fresh snow came to the dome.



Ahyasas As translated as Inkling

A solitary piece of shoe lies on a way: rue open mouth craving to quench thirst – very much.

A stray dog on the way pulled, pushed and tossed the prey the broken shabby ugly face was dragged to lose further grace.

The dog by his turn and move took to open drain, the shoe is – it – thus – so today, thirsty got thirst to go?



Mye Cham Aash Paghech Translated as I Keep Hope For Tomorrow

I keep hope for tomorrow future will be bright tomorrow.

Days to be more bright blooming flowers to be in sight the soil to be restless for greenery to come up on crust the breasts will overflow with the milk of love, love to show.

I keep hope for tomorrow future will be bright tomorrow.

Sweet sounds, I will get to hear despair to disappear – joys to cheer joys will grow close to my chest groomed with the sweet nectar of breast merriment will grow all around everything everywhere to climb and surround.

I keep hope for tomorrow future will be bright tomorrow.

He will tip toe to come to door gather the joys more and more holding his head, he will go back in soft steps, slow and slow I will be drawn into ecstasy to sing for him in fantasy. (delight)

I keep hope for tomorrow future will be bright, tomorrow.

Friends and peers will come to me greet me, my fortunes to see
I will be a winner to have won the crown of his bliss then
I will share the cheer with all but, keep the possession not to let it fall.

I keep hope for tomorrow futures will be bright tomorrow.

Alas! there is fear of war ah! It shall not be, tomorrow to mar father (Hope) of the children (progeny) has to come tomorrow the father of children has to come.

I keep hope for tomorrow futures will be bright tomorrow.



Bae Gevane Az Translated as Today I will not Sing

Today I will not, will not sing song of any sort, any sort.

For the ecstatic buds in rows and blooming meadows for the songs birds sing in melody in the charm of floral company for the wholesome beauty instinct and the inebriating joys they bring.

Today I will not, will not sing song of any sort, any sort.

Because dust of war destroys colourful charm to mar smoky barrel guns sever lips of chirping birds for ever the terror shackles sound aloud far and near all around. Today I will not, will not sing song of any sort, any sort.

Because bright light in the sky gets behind the shadow: shy mountain peaks appear hidden in the fear and dark clouds threaten all the charms of dawn, then.

Today I will not, will not sing song of any sort, any sort

Because today the war monger cheater and the deceiver is bent upon to do a nasty trick strike my Kashmir with his sting cease the charm of the scenic soil soft, warm, lovely relations to spoil.

Today I will not, will not sing song of any sort, any sort.



Zoon Drayee Tsot Hish Translated as Moon Like A Round Bread Loaf

Once the moon like a round bread loaf, high from behind the hill, came up in the sky.

Her drapes, she left behind to ho
by and by scars on her silvery body to show
like the wearied tweed of the village cottage
like a dim glow in tiresome stage
like a woman labour tricked by a contractor
like a base coin put in the chunk of coins by a manipulator.

Once the moon like a round bread loaf, high from behind the hill, came up in the sky.

Hills got hungry in appetite clouds tried to doze the glow of the hearth and its light angels came in, as if to light a makeshift hearth foods appeared to grow in hill range, in no dearth I started to tell about the food stocks to the hungry guy and repeatedly looked to the sky.

Once the moon like a round bread loaf, high



from behind the hill, came up in the sky.

Kasheeri Hund Daavaa

Translated as

Ethos of Kashmir

I have to build the bond to make the world smooth and strong the Hindu and the Muslim, again humane attitudes to regain a hindu to find a bond with sikh and with them the muslim be thick.

Who says they are separate from one another they are the children of the same mother I have: the thorns of hatred to cut make a colourful garden without any threat humane attitudes to maintain hindus and muslims to keep it up again.

Hindustan and Pakistan each nation burn in flame of cremation since the drapes and the attire was such hindus and muslims were red in blood drench I have to supply the sentiment love and brotherhood to be prevalent. Can the earnings of the peace-peasant be stolen and brokered by a rich merchant why the stinger, suck the nectars from the variety of the flowers the democracy is to be made decent for all to enjoy, none to relent.

How long the money and folk (people) keep crowns for rich to make how long the material have lots will suck the blood of have nots I have to build the nation of humane resolution.

I have to make a proud place where all keep civil grace rich sentiment and emotion sharing attitude and passion I have to make a shrine to nurture preach humility and humane stature.



Vunal Translated as Fog

No definition of figure no front back posture an unknown thought a cold lifeless sort.

Someone asks her identity tag are you the fog?

She walked on the river banks goes in lanes of all ranks step by step in her arrogance expresses her crazy sense.

Meddles everywhere in everything envelops, darkness to bring but she has to go and finish dark screens to vanish.

And we can see face to face for love and grace.



Gaase Tul
Translated as
Straw

Grass on the ground goes all the way around it is fresh, smooth and silky keeps moisture and humility.

Wind and weather effects to bear adjusts to keep up the wear but the turn of the climate gets its virtues to decimate.

The drench of the winter rain severs its life, not to remain dries as a straw to crush breaks down easy to mesh.

A spark makes it into ash its existence to smash.



Gazal This World and Cipher

One is this world, before us: the situation
One is the cipher far away: a definition
One is this world, in constant uncertainty
One is the cipher to learn about reality
One is this world, time comes and flies off
One is the cipher, age relentless - never off
One is this world, bitter and sweet a mix in existence
One is the cipher, consistency in continuance
One is this world, full of dirt and filth
One is the cipher, same sky and earth
One is this world, shrinks to a rat hole
One is the cipher, the expression of whole
One is this world, always hiccups on the move
One is the cipher, the limitless clue.



Aash (204) Translated as Hope

Fragrance spread all round all around flowers to surround I keep - keep hope for light like the Sun rise, bright the sounds reflect hope? reveal the past glory scope? is it breeze on the move or it is the sense of love clue is it the opening of a bud or it is the morning to be read is it the joy-emotion all along or it is the rhythm of love song is it the first ray of the day or it is the melody verse on play the beat of heart is set to tune dew has come to keep virtue the night got shattered in defeat darkness lost, light to meet the light travels to reach the ground give birth to bright hopes all around as Sheeshnagi was born deep from within the rocks' keep.



¹ it is a hindu mythological term: a huge spiritual water body surrounded by mountains where from a symbol of eternity, in the form of a serpent is believed to have taken form.

Tsuur Translated a Robber

The colourful charm of butterfly I followed to catch to try but in vain did the effort lie.

Colours tempted me by their dazzling spree all day and night a false glee.

Ah someone put me in illusion for my impatient passion robbed me of my possession!

I have now lost to gather, the warmth of sun the colours of spring and autumn, then the winter snow and summer stream's run.

I have lost - the feel of the smile charm the soothing affections warm all this to put me in harm.

Now I am left to remember but, a broken beating chamber no fire, but a cold mould forever!



Kakaz Walisunz Hak Translated as Scrap Hawker

Come and sell your scrap sell your scrap all your scrap papers, books, notebooks – all drapes, dresses, beddings – all groceries, grains and feeds – all.

Sell – sell existence to hard money earn wealth and riches many refuse to listen to sense other refuse to heed to word other mind your sense to sell and have...... Be out to sell, what you have keep your tongue on mortgage sell your conscience and courageit is silly to seek competitive price every price you get, is nice.

Come and sell your scrap sell your scrap all your scrap papers, books, notebooks – all drapers, dressers, beddings – all groceries, grains and feeds – all.

You may try to bargain, high but will lose your cost to try he has sold his clan and deity he has sold existence and identity why shall all this bother you you sell scrap - the scrap with you if you are left with none to sell sell your aim and ambition earn money to keep the possession earn cash, an precious possession.

Come and sell your scrap sell your scrap all your scrap papers, books, notebooks – all drapes, dresses, beddings – all groceries, grains and feeds – all.



Sonth Te Harud Translated as Romantic Seasons

Oh, cuckoo, the bird, come to sing and make the love birds of the garden awake!

See, the spring breeze in charm has come to arouse love in the garden dawn has come to hug dark cover dew pearls fill every flower.

Oh, cuckoo, the bird, come to sing and make the love birds of the garden awake!

I feel, behind the cloud, there - a virgin has bugan to wear a bridal attire the flower on the stalk bows its head the breeze splashed the pearls to spread.

Oh, cuckoo, the bird, come to sing and make the love birds of the garden awake!

The emotion is like the tear pearls of a bride, new at her in-laws house, for days few trickling down in a spontaneous flow on the sight of, one from parent's home

¹ the similes used in the last stanza are typical to kashmiri culture, the sentiments are: a very young bride came to her in-laws place for the first time, she longed for her parents in her new place; tears of rich emotions trickled down on her cheeks. This is a very rich

Oh, cuckoo, the bird, come to sing and make the love birds of the garden awake!

The water falls wearing ringing bells dance down atop the hills leaving behind high charm to have, on boulders, romance warm

Oh, cuckoo, the bird, come to sing and make the love birds of the garden awake!

Stockpilers and traders of the people killed Godliness for bloody profits, ample then, with cosmetically made decent face they go to shrines to seek His grace.

Oh, cuckoo, the bird, come to sing and make the love birds of the garden awake!

A new spring wearing a democratic device (crown) has come to garden to give due advice and Nadim with a keen desire, alive has come to awaken the garden to thrive.

Oh, cuckoo, the bird, come to sing and make the love birds of the garden to awake!



Sonnet
Translated as
Sonnet

Oh! Dear you don't remember the days when we would groom love in secretive ways don't you remember the first love-day we used unrestrictedly to display.

We planned today and tomorrow, hopes to grow but the warmth got to go, giving a blow the leaves were shed from the twig green but we kept spirits lit - to be seen.

This lit ray of light keeps my hope alive and we carry forward hopes to thrive the hope of love bloomed in grace brought up the charm on surface.

Your deep breath creates a breeze pleasant and sends across feeling decent



Samjoota Translated as Compromise

Grasses, vines, hedges, bushes, trees, bricks, mortars, windows, doors, floors and roofs - these are clay moulds born from the lump of weed this is a row of houses and that is barrier to meet this is my definition my unrest limitation the feel turns deep to run into my skeleton in fact I am hollow within weak fragile brittle and thin a bubble of soap foam which till now housed a doom this in fact is a black recess space which engulfed many and many a face it killed time to keep no rhyme the countless moments pain, pleasure morning and merriment hate, love, discord and attachment youthful bonding and sentiment is a meaningless notion a stale still worthless possession as if none existed to belong forget all, carry on - just sing a song



Narai Inqlab Translated as Revolutionary Slogan

You, youth of kashmir with passion have to carry on the flag of the mission looking to you is every Nation. be determined and move ahead you are the star bright and red

Be the honour of Kashmir Be the leader of Kashmir Be the voice of Kashmir.

You are fire and flame you are youthful blaze if you are a breeze of spring have to be out, change to bring don't hide behind the screen tear the hold, come out, be seen.

Be the revolution of kashmir Be the leader of Kashmir Be the voice of Kashmir. Roar and be a waterfall shine and be a red ball dig high spirits like fire from spaces far and near shout - shout and carry on pledge on youth and go on.

Be all pervading youth of Kashmir Be the leader of Kashmir Be the voice of Kashmir.

Don't bother for personal ends don't wait decisive mends move on whole and soul stir ahead for the goal find the objective, then the path is clean, you run.

Be the life and soul of Kashmir Be the leader of Kashmir Be the voice of Kashmir. Don't be now in sorrow wear none can deter you don't fear Kashmir, your motherland will take care: understand together gear up to win war tever mind a blood bath

Die to be a martyr of Kashmir Be the leader of Kashmir Be the voice of Kashmir

Gloomy morn is just a dew-show victory bloom is freshness to grow have to exert, not to bow keep motherland alive, you know. there is a fact, effective sacrifice is always resultive.¹

Be a martyr of Kashmir Be the leader of Kashmir Be the voice of Kashmir



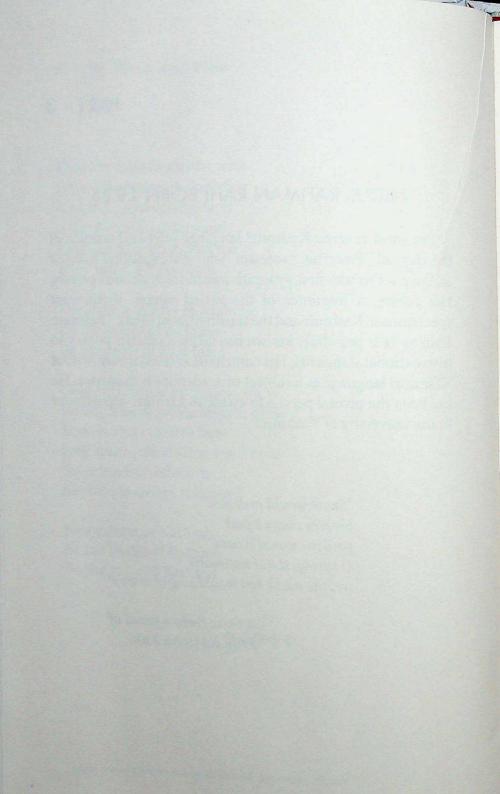
world coined from result = result oriented: like effect = effective

ABDUL RAHMAN RAHI BORN 1925

The most revered Kashmiri language poet and scholar of the day, an Emeritus professor, who distinguished himself as the poet to win first gyanpith award for Kashmiri poetry. His poetry is fragrance of the varied ranges of different spectrums of Kashmir and the sensitivities of living. Rahman Rahi as he is popularly known has taken Kashmiri poetry to international standards. His contribution to establishment of Kashmiri language as a subject of academics is immense. He has been the pivotal person to establish kashmri department in the university of Kashmir.

"Snow would melt fast breezes swayed past gardens would bloom O spring, stand testimony we, the dumb too would sing in merry!"

> a verse from a gazal of Prof. Rahman Rahi



Molul Shab Translated as The Valuable Night

Atmosphere: whirlwinds time: night but, the bird can't afford to take rest for it's desperate to rear its babies waiting somewhere.

How in turbulant wind could the footprints be un-wiped the voyage in dark, the hiccup - opportunity to keep up the chance.

May be the enthusiastic wave sets in a sublime vortex sets the fragrance wandering wide spread, no trace to leave behind but the bird can't afford to take rest for it found the wind in bad form night refuge-less, and the blood in its veins went ablaze is it - that, it was antagonised wings up, jumps down, goes hither and thither may be the neck turns to bend, the cloud is a blunt obstruction the feathers ruffle to fall the penetrative shiver filled wind may go deep to bruise may be the sound from the beak bears a thorn, sea of darkness around, no light ray - no direction but, the bird can't afford to take rest for the (call of) fresh, unhindered pure morn twitter.

This unknown surrounding unmarked time a mysterious echo from within the vortex brings forth the formless ecstatic dance of galaxies, no ghost, no ill spirits amazing formless essence from the Highest Seat - this precious night of whirlwind, a descent from Above, a night distinguished, The valuable night every movement worthier than a thousand months, the angels have come out revealing through sane¹ communiqués:

"Alert! lest the forests devoid of songsters should curse the suffocating mornings."

If nothing at all, at least the desirous heart in possession bursts with keen yearning - may thus, the joy of rose red, flow joys of red rose gardens to spread.

Oh my dear bird of great flight, I be done on you I long for you, where are you where have you reached look! you have lit my spirits in and out and how can, now, I be at rest.
Oh, my bird: the flier - fly, fly on and on safe and sound, till the dawn is found!



¹ communication without words

Kul' Paeth' (A Poem from Kadla Thathis Peth) Translated as Tree Like

Cuckoo, the bird, met me: coo coo coo soon very soon found me in its tune and hue shared the feels: ho ho ho! all in all is: go ahead go.

A leaf detached from the branch, thence dropping down - got in ecstatic dance oh you the dumb, get to gather the signal who worked to find the way and who set on the move¹!



¹ the metaphoric expression used in the original is: a person clears the weed on a water-body to find the way; the other person rows the boat to set it on the move.

Bhe Deme Krakh (A Poem from Kadla Thathis Peth) Translated as

I Will Shout To Exclaim

If a fresh feeling sprouts in heart
If a scintillating thought becomes rapturous
If the hopeless Time bubbles up with some fervent resolve
I will surely exclaim
"Oh! HUSAIN OF KARABLA'S steed has passed our way"

I reproduce one more translation of this poem, hereunder wherein the expressions of **Karbala** and **Husain** are not directly used as in the original text.

I Will Shout To Exclaim

If a fresh sentiment sprouts up to show a thought emerges into a lucent glow, if uncertain times get a boil: determined I will shout, to exclaim - the virtuous brave procession went pass our way.



Kuran Kuree Translated as Tormenting Turmoil

Passion blooms like a proud expression: keen time, like sword gashes is an order: routine.

We were foolish, as if spring blooms kept a mark, like the bravery of a person looming in dark.

We had planted a sapling to live for ages: here bought it up to rear, as if approved from There.

The compound wall within kept spring promises as if to decorate the entrance and the premises.

Elders with crown, bring dignity like a royal grandeur, to the whole family.

The bird of heaven took to wings for the flight chewed the flames like a secret act, and went upright.

The order of getting hued on seeing a hue is gallant confidence like a proud move.

The desire got expressed in a different subtle call a spree - roaming like a conflict-race, all in all.

On his way out, he, let get me know of his depart as if compulsion made him helpless to part.

Words brunt sounds, tears stole the sight of eyes looking behind, revealed something like noise and cries.

One dug base in ground - other sowed tulips atop the roof the string got cut and the necklace went, as if in disarray goof.

Will he appear in the morning or I shall wait till evening like - in a hope of ownership or a compelling thing.

Nails lose grip of skin, lungs lose flow of breath-fullness taking on the burden to bear, like a link to weakness.

May Rahi Sahab be favoured with forgetfulness his memories are a tormenting turmoil for restlessness.



¹ Rahman Rahi the poet prays for his forgetfulness.

Gazal
Translated as
Oh Spring

Snow would melt fast breezes swayed past gardens would bloom O spring, stand testimony we, the dumb too would sing in merry!



a verbs from a gazal.

Hai Kasher Zav Translated as Oh My Kashmiri Language

Oh my beloved kashmiri language I swear upon your love and prestige you are my view, rational and vision my nous, knowledge and definition you are the radiance of my conscience colourful aura ring1 you are the rhythmic tune on my extreme passionate string.2



this is a verse from a gazal by Rahman Rahi.

¹ rainbow is the metaphoric expression used in the original.

²a passionately mad Sarang, (the popular string musical instrument) is the metaphoric expression used in the original.

Gazal Translated as Forgotten Stature

Have forgotten worthy stature heritage the ancestral lineage - keep no crown no sceptre – now what is left, is the tongue, imploring him O! Kashap Reshi¹, Come around.



Bhe Chus Ravan (A Poem from Kashri Sharie hund Intikhab publilshed by Sahatiya Akademi)

Translated as

I Wonder

You may have now forgotten the good old days how come, the spring found the warm youthful day the sun in the early morning came with a sober heat the breeze, as if pulled attention to seek I unlocked the hold of the chain bolt¹ to set open the restless cage the vapours on the thatched rooftops had woken up from slumber.

¹ the metaphor used is: a traditional iron chain structure like a small fetter use to hold and bolt doors and windows.

in a terral creation to

A spring smart bird sang near the street electric pole and you put to blaze this luring atmosphere when you came up on the veranda cloths to spread, drythe feminine printed gown blushed red under the naked sun, unknowingly, I got to taste the cherry red, I saw a deep poem in your eyes to be read-It will take for more than my life it, to be read to comprehend.

In the unmarried pure bosom you got passion deposits to bulge uptraversing all odds cutting through the waves you swam like a swan to get across the lake deep, you in the emotional arouse biting the nails

dropped the highness of your eyebrows, the signals to send across: a consent of warmth.

you spread spring
on your lips
the smile and
style of your move
set my imaginations
to gather
passionate images
of dancing deer herds, around.

You might have forgotten that world of the old days: the waters in the river change in a moment. you are now a sea-deep housewife people refer to the depth of your maturity-now, the blooms of the tulips in your compound have picked up the charm from you.

It is quite some time, now I too live, my life and household pass the days disentangling the silken complexities of life, nonetheless sometimes a youthful love breeze comes to play a youthful throb in the chamber of the heart and the cold hold of the chain bolt drops off the siege of the cage. I wonder if you still recollect that warm youthful spring day and the blush of the gown in the naked sun.

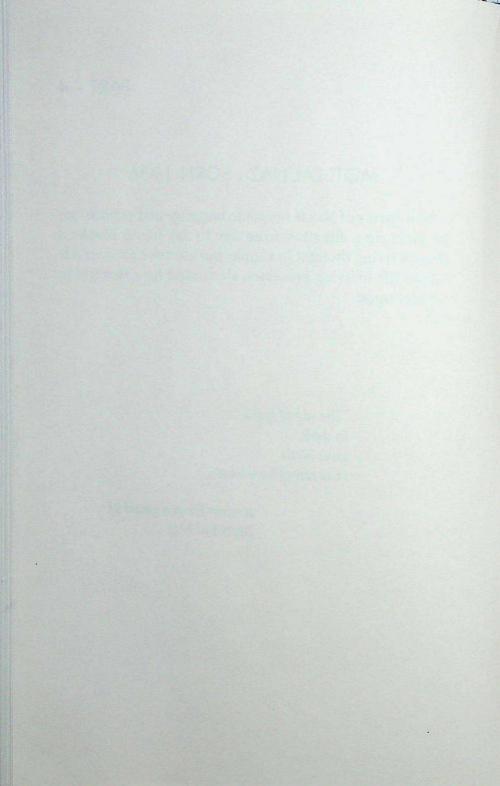


MOTI LAL NAZ, BORN 1936

The poetry of Naz is simple in language and expression; he picks up a situation from day to day life to invoke a mind stirring thought in simple, but effective manner. He relates life to living processes, all-around for a thought to ponder upon.

"The ray of spirit in dark gives birth to ocean of luminance."

> a verse from a gazal of Moti Lal Naz



Aakaar Translated as Expression

There must be some colour to create an expression in the shade.

The canvas craves blank
looking for the hue
but the hairs of the brushes
in disarray – devastation
and every effort to draw an impression
gives birth to caricatures
of no rhyme or rhythm - sense or substance.

All the lessons learnt to make shades appear gone berserk: astray and stupid.

Since
colours lost their tinge
brushes lost hairs
figures lost rhythm
shades went berserk
canvas stands with urging eyes
to find shades of expression.



Blood Group Translated as Blood Group

Ah!
poison engulfed the body no part left unaffected
blood running through the vessels
turned black
spreading unease and unrest.

The doctors in care were on hot pins: perplexed – anxiety ridden for the only treatment was blood transfusion.

But stun what could be the test to find The blood group.



73

Dastaar Translated as Turban

He from under the cover of his robe pulled out a cloth hunk lumped into a bundle.

Wearing a complex
he addressed the laundry boy
"dye it in golden shade
starch it tight
fix dazzling, make it sparkling
this is my turban, the dignity signature"

The laundry boy untied the bundle to find it a long length of fine cloth in surprise cheeks pulled eyebrows stretched iris dilated took a deep breath gave a shrewd look and replied "Oh man where from have you come who, in these times wears a turban turbans lie in trash stores turbans keep no virtue turbans lie on filthy shelves turbans are mud sludge drenched turbans have gone undignified.

Sawaal Translated as Inquisitiveness

Every morning brings forth a long list of questions questions: simple and intricate short and stretching complex and loaded.... questions and more questions.

But my answers never lost track to exhaust and extinct.

Answers: straight and complex brief and lengthy dodging and dragging.... answers and more answers

This see-saw of question – answer this hide-seek of question – answer this streak of questions - answer keeps on life and essence of living.



Gashe Sodur Translated as Ocean of luminance

The soft sober cotton fluff from the bale of conscience by a rub in between the palms on turn and twist brought forth a wick - sublimed and humbled.

A stretched figure to form and then soaked it to lie in the spirit lamp: ready - head projected high to burn by and by and keep alive the light.

The ray of spirit in dark gives birth to ocean of luminance.



Botche Hinz Kraam Translated as "hunger – hungry, classes"

Hunger loomed large on my face hunger: the 'hungry' could not gauge. My eyes rolled again and again to read the faces of hungry.

My hunger a gripping starvation dug in and expressed by sunken eyes - pale face - grim body and life stretching in urge to survive.

The hungry express no starvation sign but keep endless desire to go to high, to reap gain to go deep, to reap gain go hungry - hungry to remain. This hungry-ness has little meaning for my hunger.

I lament to realize: the riddle ridden hungry class a superior class than my class of hunger.



Tchane
Translated as
Separation

He face to face made remarks on me.
I took stock of myself found myself - colourful for my belief, "I am I, and I belong to myself."

The fact:
he sent me, signals
I let them go
unheeded, un-imbibed the sense to recognize
went blank
the word to understand
went caricature
the length to reach
went dwarf.

All signals went belonging-less.
Then I tried to find
reach, catch hold of him
but he had gone away:
distant.
I missed
myself to meet separated
myself from my being.



BaliTranslated as **Sacrifice**

He believed streets don't revolt and steps went on and on to stampede no bit to spare. The gallopers lost speed every excited hurray got into more excitement.

Streets
not to see tyranny
needed sacrifice and suddenly someone
under the wheeling tyre
was dead: bleeding.
The street went smooth soon to see
melee of stampede, again.



Volubore Translated as Burden

I remain I
till the mirror
there
captures me live
and I keep on
tuning and trimming myself
on the scale
to be.

Treading the grass route levels brought no limits to realize truths but eyes are eyes hold inquisitiveness to vine up, round and around hoping heights bring gains.

I smashed the mirror to pieces found freedom from the load of tune and trim hopped and jumped to heights.

¹ like a grape vine.

Here - very soon
I lost my composure
got blessings of strange-hood
and my conscience split
to get me into imbalance:
weak - fragile - susceptible.

Now, I desire to see myself wish: find a piece of mirror to pick up look into and discover myself.

I lost myself and I am not I. Vuryanee Translated as Nudity

She stood almost still on the cross road speaking by her helpless expressions of eyes and body. Her wraps did not wrap her bore sieves (holes) through and through further opened up by vicious looks, silvery smooth pure skin to show for vulture looks to prick and prick.

She wore
a spark of cognizance
to realise
time had gone mad
like a wild bull,
the sensuous
nasty looks
melted her wrap
to be nude:
top to toe.



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Girdaabh Translated as Whirl

Don't get deep into my expressions all around: entangled situations - insufficient every effort to match try hard you may, but can't catch.

Efforts of ascendance to climb up torturous confusions to get piled up inquisitiveness gets more inquisitive by probe all replies go wordless for any scope.

I feel strong to say and speak deep turmoil restricts like a disease have lost hold of my tranquility truth invites brickbats and animosity.

See, functional parts turn turtle ears get to gather sounds: rattle eyes see sights fake. strokes from within, chest has to take.

The lanes - streets - roads have gone crude can't bear their loads, they have gone, brute can't tread these paths, fall flat before start Alas! my journey is small, but terrible the lot.



Gazal Translated as Forbidden

This world an order of forgetfulness forbids memories – memoirs are useless.

Disorder – gloom – viciousness forbids sight – eyes are useless.

Feet exhausted, head held under load disturbed conscience – being in gloomy mode.

Earth wears a dress of dejection sky above, a forbidden destination

Discourses see no place to milt (meet) tracks lack graphs, hopes to build.

World has dwarfed for virtue sense try to gather your ends thence.

Life before birth is ceased death forbidden and freezed. (frozen)

Conscience flow, stops to follow disciplines go off hollow and shallow

Truths are embedded deep hidden expressing the truths are forbidden.



Gazal Translated as Slide

O dear, be aware dent is there everywhere - all are, 'wise' here believe 'wise' words they share but, open lips to convey their wisdom is a hollow-say.

All the seasons, we had, were soulful with a mean meaning, cheerful winter white or spring sprout brought joys, without doubt.

Now bloomy gardens keep away serve us gloom in murky way none could imagine thus could be the day.

The caretaker kept no sense the garden will ever shape thence dark clouds to come to loom envelop charm in gloom. Now in desperation we peep to see rejuvenation wish a chinar breeze may appear to give some ease. but even the smooth sober dew keeps hot vopours to give.

The present day crises ploy pushes aside my romantic joy never ever, otherwise love expressions were in reluctance.

The order of city in present day slides, to go awful way otherwise thoughts would not go separated, no humaneness to show.

Then, greetings - good wishes, all carried simplicity, all in all Oh! Naz, virtue-life sense is lost now wilderness all across.



Nov Zanum
Translated as
New Birth

Palm readers
gave me a sense –
spider webs woven across:
a tangle of threads, intricate every turn breaks the line
to bend, go a little
turn around and bend again some go knotted, thick in lumps
some die and vanish, invisible
some appear to emerge
but are not
some emerge
but merge.

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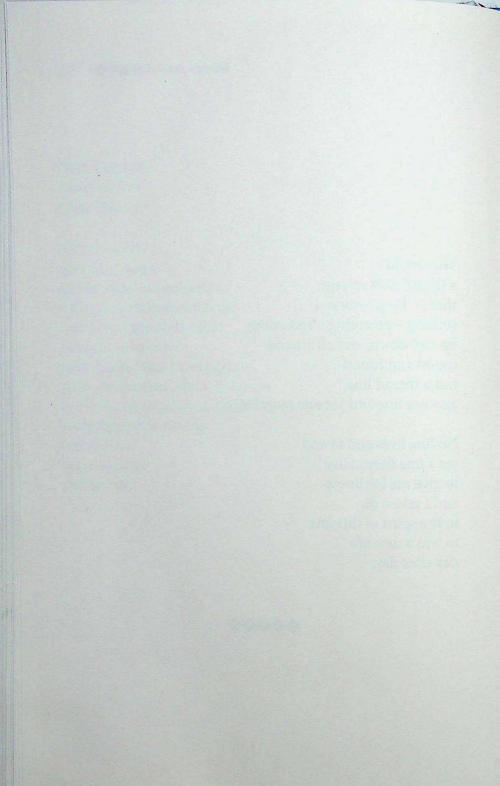
This world:
a thread-ines mirage:
short – long – curved
sinking – emerging – spreading

round and round just a thread line, another line and yet one more line.

up and down, and all around

No line lives end to end yet a line keeps alive to give me liveliness and I take a dip in the spirit of this line to win a new life day after day.



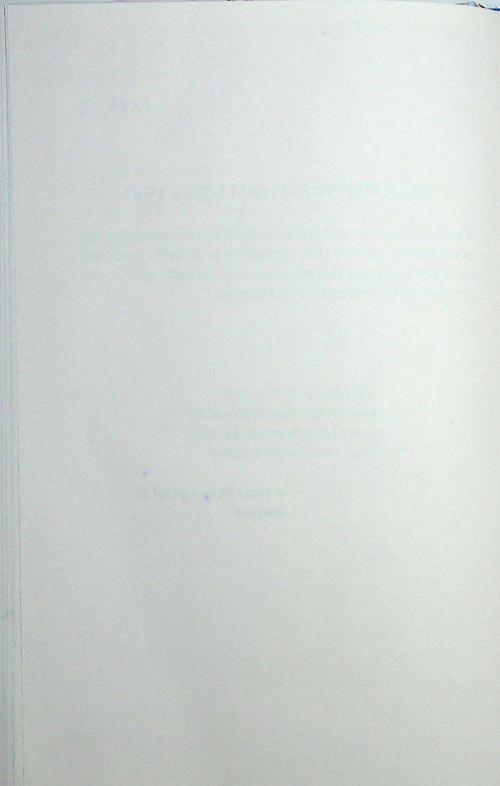


BAL KRISHEN SANYASI BORN 1943

The poetry of sanyasi is philosophical and has psychological connotation; he says that spirituality is always a need and so is the romance, this marriage of philosophy of life with emotion of life is literature and poetry.

"He came in with a smile touched me, then beckoned me – I asked him to reveal, he said, "Will reveal in the evening"

> a verse from a gazal of Sanyasi



Hay dai mouda Translated as Is God Extinct

He Said,

"I am guard to the devastated colonies.
you should not pelt stones at me,
I have fragile, brittle glass limbs
Lest they should shatter to fly and spread bloodshed"

"I have all the mountain loads on my head and am choked - hardly carry on the breath. the scene is blinding and I cannot withstand."

"Oh! Blessed man, would you kindly hold me close, give me a bliss touch may be, I get well
to withstand the ordeal spell.
the fragile, brittle arms would go
for the strong limbs and hands to show,
to enable me
throw off heavy adversity loads."

Heeding to him I responded,
"Has God gone extinct?"
His instinctive curiosity filled question "How did you know this, Oh! pious man?"

And I replied,
"Only then could the colonies go devastated,
left for you to guard"
"Only then could all mountains go orphaned
to set their heavy loads on you.
"Only then the civilizations brought forth the
populations with frail, fragile, brittle limbs.

"Had God not gone extinct then you would not go de-capacitated, then you would not seek a bliss touch to Withstand."



Sheshergenth Translated as Icicle

Would it not snow so heavily, for the roofs to take loads high.

And roofs would not perspire to drench wet, for sweat drops to take this shape of smooth, sober, pretty charm.

Hanging high in desperation, Yet groom and grow in suspension rear a desire, someone to find: hold my hand - care and mind, and take me around for a spree in brides decor for the glee. I am an icicle at the roof edge in cold condition and anxious notion. Though in cold state yet breathe warmth and keep alive my hope and spirit. Ah! a host of folks in disguise, keep ill eye to grapple and grab, grip and crush under the prick of teeth. Ah! the sun under the cloud cover too, does viciously gaze on my nude body and its rays spoil me to get done.

Now I keep some moments of life to boon and will be done away from the roof soon keep no hope to take to life again keep no hope to groom and grow again.



Che Ma Seeth Translated as "Along with?"

Step - step on the ground imagine you are along with crisp autumn leaves crackle say - you aren't along with.

Scorching sun, telling heat desire drives to loiter lanes solo steps sound, tap - tap say - you aren't along with.

Death haunts, call be ready to lie down dawn rays raise hope but you aren't along with. Showers give joyous bath -Imagine, you are along with. breezes come whispers, you aren't along with.

Standing stone planks bear engraved our names: clear the sun sets in - in routine and you aren't along with.

Masses say, this poem: a pearl bead Sanyasi, "Wear it" I can't bear to wear it for you aren't along with.



Sheena Jung Translated as Victory

The autumn in its hubris to wither the life went past but only to give the birth to the childhood, new: clean - clear - white snow.

The romantic expression came forth in bridal attire and bestowed with love resolution. romance came into play to offer a fresh snow ball to Cupid.

You also come come, close, let us share the warmth in a game of snow play the game to win and lose.

I win to get you limitless inebriating nectar drink but, you may get to proud to forget me.

Your blush and the body grace in the hope to win is limitless - you are excited cannot win this day - taken over by ecstasy unaware, in tranquillity you are lost.

In the play of throwing snow balls you throw the balls on me I, in the charm of the game give you a snow bath and the snow balls, you shoot strike my bodythe one that you threw on me hit my ear to whisper, "I have lost for you to win."

Mey Laij Traash Translated as Burning Desire

I Implore:
don't gag me - strangulate me
I cry and shout
not being possessed by evil thirsty, I am
over ridden by thirst.

I am fire lit, from within as if swallowed the Sun, down the throat - feel to tear myself for the need to quench my urge.

Youth comes a volcano-brust expression the outpour of shoots call for care: irrigate – rear - groom to get bloom. Why your treacherous ropes
tie me, drag me bruise me - wound me - gash me
I am desperate, I want to kill myself.
Your urge possessed you you pecked - pecked me to feed
I am tortured and tormented by heat stroke do I fault to desire: quench my thirst
I am youthful, keep splendour of bloom.

Come, take my care quench my thirst - but you and opportunist, whirl wind will detach me from pedestal to sink me, desperate.



Te Vanay Shaman Translated as Evening Call

He did not reveal himself to me yet I expressed to convey
"I am to stop breath – ups and downs and go lost in the evening"."

The autumn leaves will not fear drop from the twigs the winter chill will not rear hopes to see summer the summer will not scare to bring blistering hot winds.

He came in silently: unnoticed but I saw him wear the attire of a saint.

He came in with a smile touched me, beckoned me I asked him to reveal, he said "Will reveal in the evening"



Aadem Mor Translated as True Luminance

When the dark black cloud lumps loomed large on the building a lightning struck the tall trees in the compound.

The showers stormed waters to flood: violent the splashes eroded the edifice of identity.

I did howl – shout – cry none to listen – none to heed the darkness enveloped to scare intense and long. Some day - some sound ehoed in resonance "a soul is held in the house" Oh! I called – who but to realize there is none, but for me detained, since.

Now I desire to stretch my wings, fly – liberate myself from the hold reach the absolute.

The structure to go to pyre on a lit blaze of luminance to set out into the flames of truth.



"Bumsin"
Translated as
Earthworm

Small slim straight red in colour moves to and fro in same form of go. in ecstasy dips in, inside to see - finds within he and she, in a coil to appear dance in supreme cheer and discover the union of the pair.

The soil and seed the strike and sound the act and action the energy and form appearances, two but hold within a clue both are one for the universe then.

Thus the distinction of discrimination to lose all, is same nothing to choose. Earthworm a unison inkling the expression of the linking - one emanates into two. two merge into one.



"Pyod Vyod Ma Chum" Translated as Wicked Deceiver in Disguise

A huge crowd people in disarray disorder and melee shouts – hoots - howls children under stampede screams fill the air: a wicked deceiver sneaked in spoils city's serenity.

Sara - Santosh - Gurmeet got pathetic ends to meet Sara on run with children: two dead or alive she had no clue. Santosh celebrating festivity found her husband killed in brutality Gurmeet by a ghastly bullet murdered with no let.
Wicked deceiver is a murderer evil propagator - death trader strikes - stroke after stroke unleashes cry of fire and smoke humane element sense severed bloody brutality served masses rattle humanity in dismantle.



"Vunal"
Translated as
Fog

Some may say
she comes early in the day
smooth and sober
gentle joys promoter
silently through the lanes dark
comes, welfare to markothers may say
she is shy
wears a wrap
all her skin to drape.

But, Alas! she is a devastation under cover an ill definition digs up the roots stems and shoots. garden blooms, to tarnish white peak tops, as if vanish winds become silly waterfalls go dilly-dally brooks flow in scare survival to fear.

Under its hood (cover) flush floods would uproot many a tree green tragedy to see.

The sky is screened not to see the soil earth worried to see through to get the surrounding's clue, colourful associates: intimate divide to separate - togetherness link to finish unison to tarnish.

She holds daggers concealed deep in her wraps works to dig foundations sets ruin in motions - all to fall into a ditch devastated in deep niche she, in her passion of craze conceals her evil to save disgrace.



"Taziyath"
Translated as
Confession

I am a 21st century father how can I have a daughter you are a burdensome thing filth: no grace to bring. let me give you bath the bath of your life.

Dragged her from her hub (lap of mother) to give her a bath in a tub fed water, her mouth to fill quenched her life cry to full. She got into slumber she will cry: never.

Time to mourn her death she is now laid with a wreath.

You shall not again be born to me I will not let you light to see.

Bauye Marai Translated as Three stages

I beseech – say it againshe in her passion filled voice said "I be done on you." "Oh! hold on, I will give you." "You get me into torture to crave."

I got ecstatic delight,
to hear itpray, would you say it again
when you said it - first time
I did not lend my attentionnow when you say it
I would be attentive
to assimilate and absorbAnd then, if you say it third time,
I will absorb the warmth of your sentiment get ignited to flames
if you recognise me
in flames,
offer all

I longed for.
My pyre will be lit
in the morning
you will carry the tragic day
in your lap
and I will merge in cool cold ash
at dusk
then who will give
and who will get.



"Yavaan Metch" Translated as Oh! Ecstatic Beauty

Oh! bloomy beauty: ecstatic, I pray you should have come during the day You did come: a casual guest at sunset - light to fade into dusk.

Light bids farewell
a darkness spell –
owls howl – dog bark
children in scare – old debilitate
the surround all around: fearfulness
and I devoid of sleep, in restlessness.
You too, by now, will be in a new place
anxious: counting time and measuring space.

Oh! bloomy beauty: ecstatic, I pray you should have come on a sunny day to bask in the sun and gather the rays but, you didn't meet the warm ways. Though spring is to set in again but time keeps many a fears to retain you may not be you, and me not me the strides of time bring changes to see. You will be aged, a in new place – there: the Lal¹, under the wraps of time wear.

Summer, blisters my feet winter, freeze bites my feet I will be numb, dumb, blank roaming devoid of expression and you will see me, to sigh Oh! What a scholar has gone by.



the greatest mystic poetess of Kashmir

Vudav Translated as Flyer

Human face free flying vulture race a vicious wizard large group speaks fire in flames thick.

Live trees go on fire liveliness to scare days suffer in smoke shades spread heat stroke cities go jungle way beasts are guests of the day.

The wish to be a chinar: big spread cool shade, goes sick. The wild beasts bear razor sharp antlers, to tear swoop deep and then gash the bellies of children.

These snatchers snatch the rays of light nights go long: dark, black and strong. People in disguise keep swords, bombs and guns all devastating means rich life to sever and ditch.

Hundred mob up to attack one: soft – easy - hapless as a wolf pack goes glad to tear the prey, part by part.

The killers hold the moon by her locks she goes wounded to bear scars the sun is eclipsed, goes dim in shame questions: reason for the crazy hatred.

The confusion ridden reply confuses further expressions go wild and weird-now the dew will not appear, pearls to spread the rose will not bloom scents to fragrance love birds will not go together joyful messages to send the blue bee and the butterfly will die devoid of love.

I, the flyer of love cannot withstand the plight to see the cruel might chop the love wings.

I will fly, take an untiring flight to be - a flame and fire, intense bright hot sun, severe storm filled winds, hurricanes and tornados bursting clouds – striking thunders and reduce all hate ammunition to rubble.

I will grow virtueseeds to make earth a heaven's seat climb up to be the hope in clouds
come down dancing to irrigate life to bloom
be the snow on the peaks to extend peace
melt to give birth to brooks, streams and rivers
run pure,
dirt and hatred to wash away
be the waterfalls to sing love tunes
be the bird of all weathers
to fly, fly and fly, and fly love and peace.



FOLKLORES

Folklore is a rich treasure of every literature. It directly emanates from common people and reflects the socio-cultural ethos of masses. Folklore is strongly entrenched in public sentiment of a geographical place, but its appeal is universal. The folklore "Lokte Molto Tarko translated as Little Star Why" is not strictly a folklore, it is children's rhyme written (as told to me by Radhey Nath Massarat) by Nana Ambardar

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Inchree Baeni Pinchree Baeni Translated as Inchree Baeni Pinchree Baeni

Inchree Pinchree, two dear sisters Momboi, the funny brother – Inchree Pinchree rode their horses Momboi saddled a wall Inchree Pinchree went for a joy ride Momboi had a fall.



Lokte Mokto Tarko Translated Little Star Why?

The nice little star why, you shy to blink your eye? What keeps you busy all the day - you come in night to stay? Attractively graceful your style, sweet and touchy twinkling while. May I pick you and fix on my cap, gaze at you as my friendly chap. I would love and hold you close, get you learn the worldly roles.



Amto – Kamto Translated as Amto Kamto

Amto – kamto come and titillate.

come and go
very slow
up on the baby's leg
titillate, and go up and up
make it playful
joyous and cheerful
not to cry and rile
but to play and smile

Amto – kamto come and titillate.



Hape Leliyaa Tshupe Kar Translated as Haplay Laplay

Haplay Laplay weeping face keep quiet, make no noise – your mother has gone to get food she will come and eat you could – then a part in a pocket you shall hold to serve you in winter, cold yet keep another part in a secret pot to serve you in summer, hot do not cry in repeat a little of it you must eat.



Zun Maaj Zunee Translated as O Mother Moon!

O moon!

sober mood never crude like a mother and no other what you hold silver or gold?

O moon!

for whom, do you keep compassion so deep?

"I keep it, for the caring - one who gives me touch of sharing."

What you want to have and share

"A galloping horse to ride up¹ a boat to sail down for delight."



¹ the metaphor is to ride a horse to go up and sail in a boat to go down, this is representative expression of highs and lows of life.

Valiv Gachav Dal Translated as Let us Go to Dal Lake

Come on children, let us go enjoy the lotus leaves show – lotus leaves, nice and clean spreading smiles, they are seen Dal is the beautiful lake keeps calm for joy sake.

We shall sneak and run go to Dal, have bath and fun.



Sonth Translated as Spring

Crow crows, crow crow
Myna says it is now, spring show
for the Bulbul to feel cool
and flowers to bloom
naked branches get leaves to wear
and dried stocks get lively cheer.



Cawo - Cawo
Translated
O Dear Crow!

O dear crow - where you had been?

"To see the places green."

What did you eat there?

"Bowlful of rice and curd - dear."

Did you spare a little for me?

"I did keep, some for yee." (you)

Where is it, let me see?

"Oh! A Crow came, and away took - He"

Where did the crow go?

"He perched on the branch below."

What happened to branch "Say"?

"A carpenter cut it away."

Where did the carpenter go?

"He made it into timber, and rest I don't know."



Caw Bhate Cawo Translated O Pious Crow!

Crow pious crow - come and see. we keep for you, the "Kichre" - come along with her - (wife) after a bath in holy water, having a pure tilak on forehead wearing the sacred thread: red.

Pray come to our clean place, have the feast and bless with grace.

The terms - pious crow, holy water, tilak and sacred thread red are auspicious terms in kashmiri pandit culture. they show sigrificance of crow, both in kashmiri pandit mythology and also show care to birds, animals and environment in general.



Zovi Hanz Kath
Translated
Louse: Greedy Parasite.

All the food and the rice galloping horse: nice, the shepherd and its flock the bride and groom, and their stock - parasite louse ate it all into her greedy belly small went on to have more, still killed herself by more and more fill.

Parasites eat for a while – till they go crazy to find end and fall still.



Zov te Kokur Translated Parasite's Friend

A cock made friendship with a louse had a relationship very nice - both went for a picnic together foods they carried for each other - louse felt hungry again and again finished all foods, nothing to remain, then sheep, shepherd and the couple in the house ate this all, and more that came in its way, thence.

Then it went to river, water to drink water made her heavy to slip, drown and sink.



Kokroo Kakroo Translated as Hen Dear Friend Hen

Hen dear friend hen,

"Where are you going, so far"

I am on my way to seki-daffar¹

"What is the job there to be done"

I am to hatch eggs, dear friend hen:
hatch them to have babies, a few
love and live with chicks new.

"How many chicks, you have, now?"
One hundred eleven, but concern you how?

"Please give me one to have and possess"
I have none to give up and dispossess.
Parents may have children one or ten
nobody is ready give up, even one.



a place in down town city

Gagrae Sanz Kathe Translated as He and She Mouse

He and she mouse Lived in a house, She cooked "kichre" Tasted the delicacy.

She ate again Again and again Ate all of it, to finish -Now, nothing left in dish.

He mouse asked for food in repeat She mouse gave excuses, but nothing to eat He was hungry angry and lost his cool Hit her hard with a spoon

She got a cut on her ear
He got anxious, up stood his hair
They went begging, shop to shop
To stitch the wound, bleeding to stop.

There was none to help them out Nobody heeded to their yelp and shout He and she were thus sad Since then always feeling bad.



Acknowledgements

I acknowledge with gratitude the trust extended to me by Prof. Rahman Rahi, to translate his poems. I could access him for advice and for understanding a poetic expression. His unparalleled mastery on Kashmiri language and literature, and his command on English language as well, have been a great support to me. Translating his poems and passing the sensitivity tests on his simply extra-ordinary linguistic genius have given me lessons of learning. I acknowledge the generous support of Prof. Neerja Mattoo, she read the script with keen interest and corrected many aberrations.

Mr. Bal Krishen Sanyasi and I have been meeting and discussing Kashmiri poetry for many years, more so since 2000. We have spent nights together burning mid night oil, as the phrase goes, to deliberate on various dimensions of Kashmiri poetry. I acknowledge his scholarship and persuasion in accomplishing this work. I also acknowledge the support of Mr. Moti Lal Naz to translate his poems. He has a clear understanding and gauges the expression to be clear and correct. He read the whole script more than once to suggest valuable improvements.

I acknowledge with equal gratitude the support of Mr. G. R. Hasrat Gadda, who helped me in getting the permission for the translation of the poems from the poets whom I could not reach. Mr. Shantiveer Kaul has been kind to support me to translate the poems of Dina Nath Nadim.

I am grateful to Dr. Roop Krishan Bhat and Dr. Gauri Shankar Raina for their valuable inputs.

About the Book:

This is translation of selected Kashmiri poems into English language. The book includes poems of Swache Kral, Parmanand, Krishna Joo Razdan, Master Zinda Kaul, Ghulam Ahmad Mahjoor, Dina Nath Nadim, Rahman Rahi, Moti Lal Naz and Bal Krishen Sanyasi. These poets are some of the prominent signatures on the creative poetry of Kashmiri Language. The book has six parts, first part comprises of the poems of more than one poet and each of the next four parts is designated to a poet. The sixth part is translation of some folklores. The limitations and challenges of translation have been met to a great extend in recreating the poems into English language.

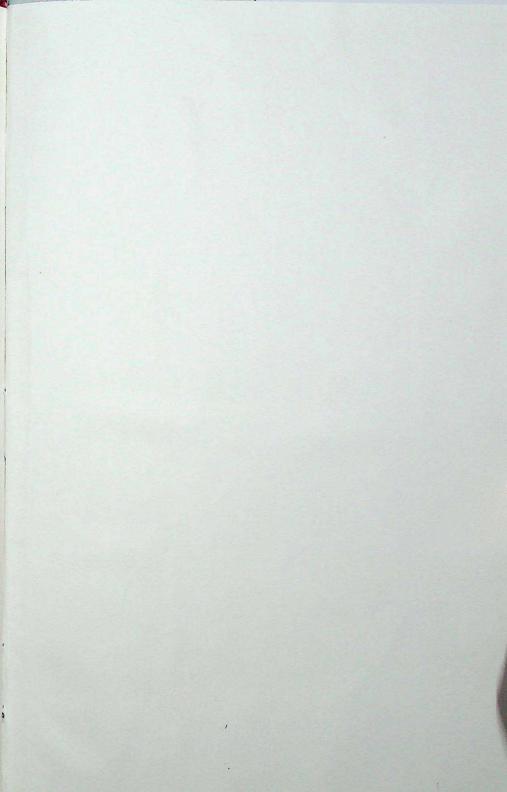
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The poets can be called to represent the thought and sentiment of the Kashmir, which is mystic, nature-loving, spiritual, social, philosophical, romantic, political and realistic. The poets, by their poems express the ethos of Kashmiri society. They are among the distinguished poets of kashmiri language. Their contribution forms a part of the most valuable literature of kashmiri language. In addition to the great literary worth of the poems on the national scene, the poems have attracted the attention of scholars and readers, internationally.

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Arvind Shah is a writer - poet - translator; author: S. Chand - Prabhat - Dreamland. His translation book, "Atal Bihari Vajpayee - Selected Poems" has received critical appreciation from many quarters. He has revised: "Wren English Grammar Series". His texts on the illustrations of Tom Arma (NY USA) published in a series of children's books are popular in many parts of the world. He has worked for educational programmes through various national and international organisations, and is presently associated with some literady and social organisations, both in government and non-government sectors to render his expertice and consultancy.

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Arvind Shah with Rahman Rahi at Srinagar (2015)

Arvind Shah is a good reader of poetry, his translations enable the reader to enter and experience the emotional world of the poetic piece. His translations are crisp.



Arvind Shah with Moti Lal Naz at Delhi (2016)

Arvind Shah writes, "A translation shall be a recreation with sensitivity to the spirit and substance - fragrance and aura of the original, within its form and style." He has within these parameters really done justice to this work of translation. It will be an added asset to the literary world.



Arvind Shah with Bal Krishen Sanyasi at Jammu (2014)

Arvind Shah is a translator, who penetrates deep into the psyche of the imagery of a poet to get himself acquainted with the thought content of the poems, which he translates.

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